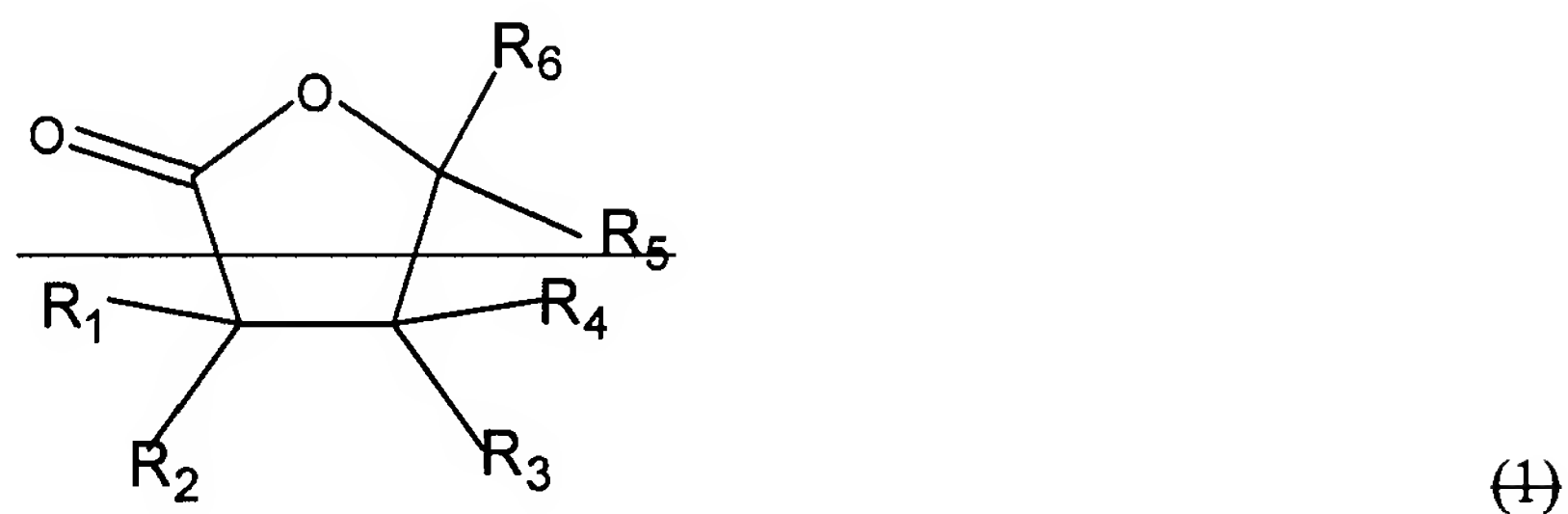


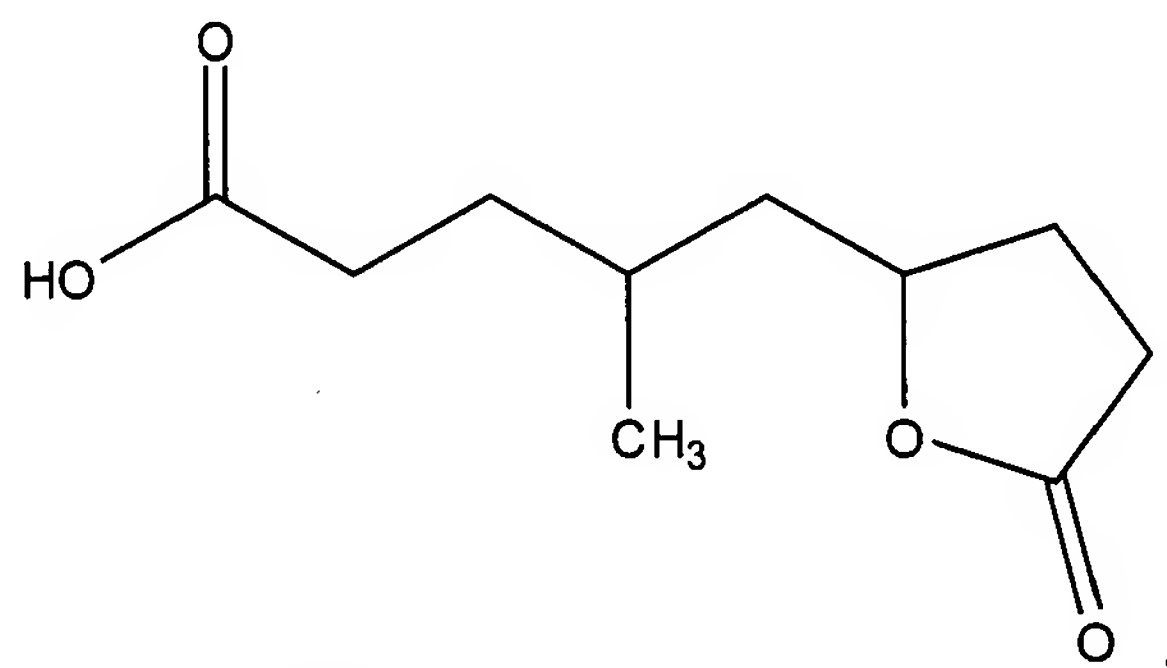
1.3 IN THE CLAIMS:

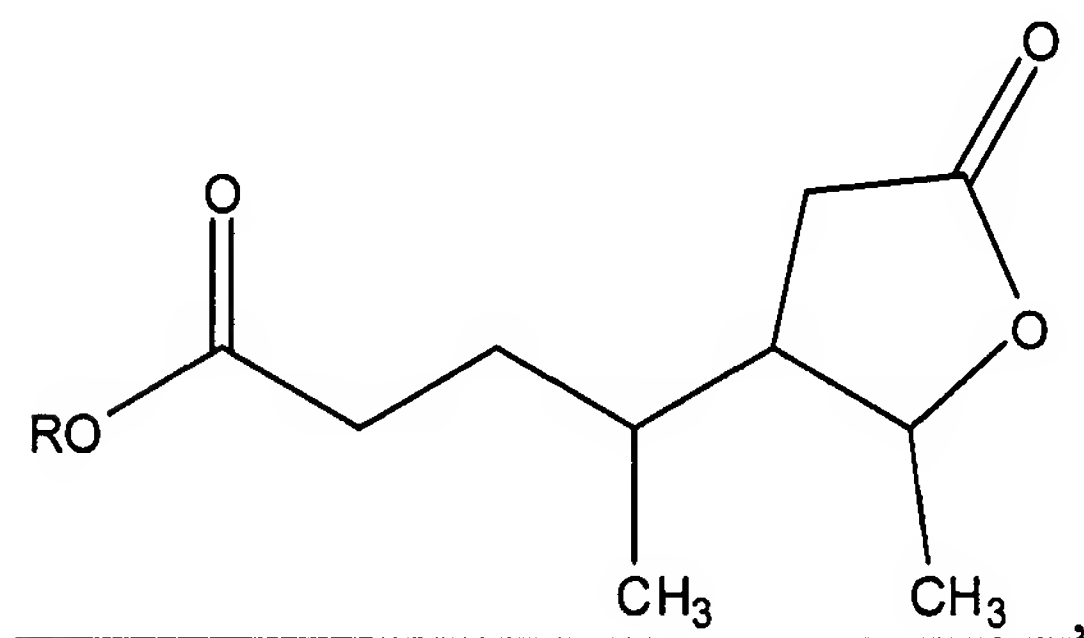
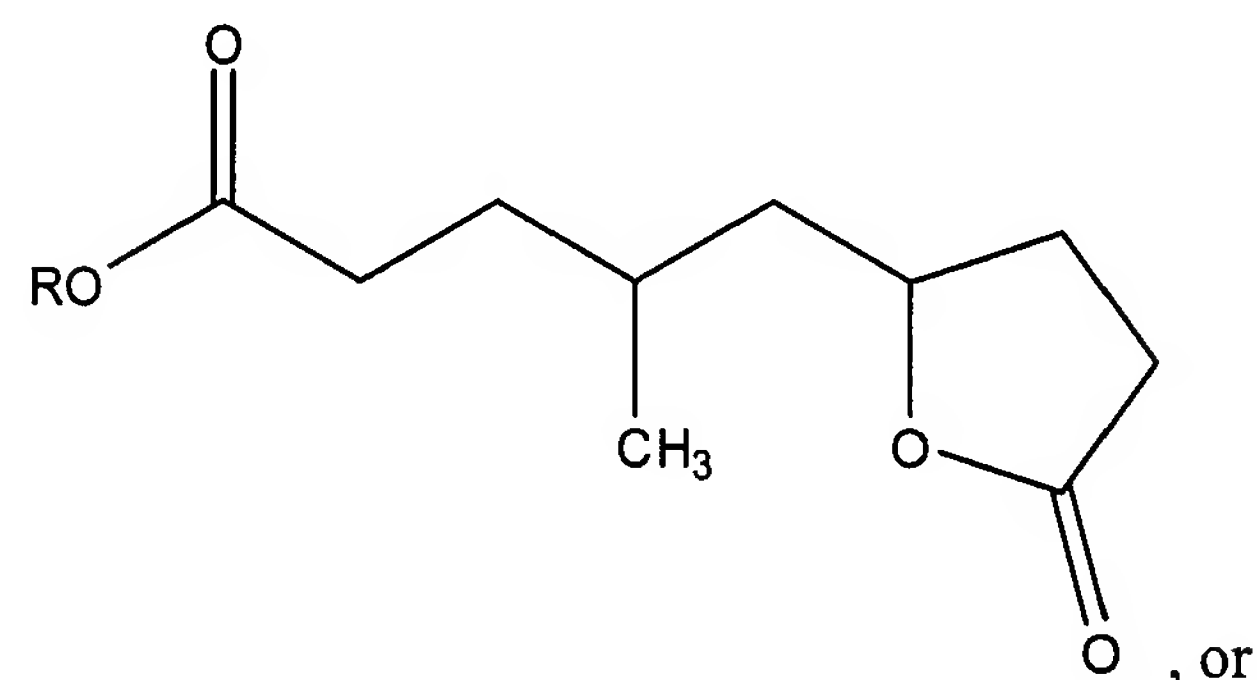
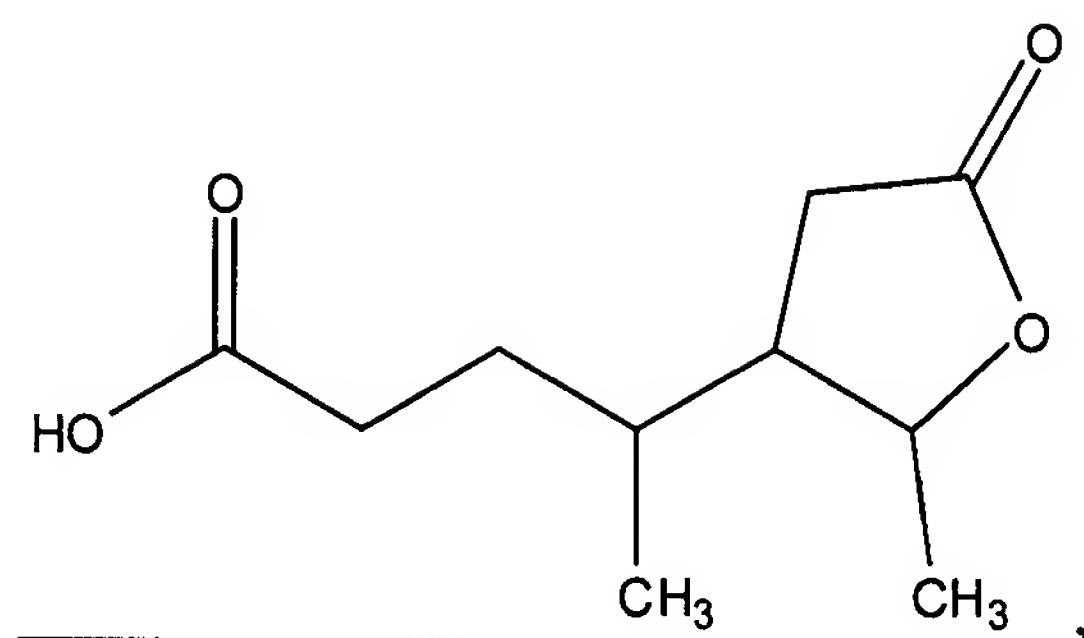
This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the liquefaction of lignocellulosic or cellulosic material, wherein solid lignocellulosic or cellulosic material is heated at a temperature in the range of from 100 to 300°C in the presence of an acid catalyst and a solvent, wherein the solvent-to-solid material weight ratio is at most 50, the acid catalyst is present in a concentration of at most 50% by weight of acid based on the weight of solvent and acid, and the solvent comprises a compound having ~~a gamma lactone group of the general~~the molecular formula:



~~wherein R₁ to R₆ each represent, independently, a hydrogen atom or an organic group connected with a carbon atom to the lactone group.~~





wherein **R** is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The process ~~according to~~of claim 1, wherein the compound ~~having a gamma lactone group~~ is obtainable from levulinic acid by hydrogenation, dehydration, aldol condensation, ~~dimerisation~~dimerization or ~~oligomerisation~~oligomerization, esterification with an alcohol, or a combination of two or

more of these reactions.

6-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]The process according to~~of claim 1, wherein the solvent consists essentially of one or more of the solvent compounds defined in claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]The process according to~~of claim 1, wherein the acid catalyst is a strong mineral or organic acid having a pKa below 4.7.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]The process according to~~of claim 11, wherein the acid is phosphoric acid or ~~sulphuric~~sulfuric acid.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]The process according to~~of claim 11, wherein the acid is oxalic acid, 2-oxopropanoic acid, maleic acid, (1E)-prop-1-ene-1,2,3-tricarboxylic acid, 2,3-dihydroxysuccinic acid, furan-2,5-dicarboxylic acid, or a combination of two or more thereof.

14. (Currently Amended~~[[A]]The process according to~~of claim 1, wherein the acid catalyst is present in a concentration of at most 20% by weight.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]The process according to~~of claim 11, wherein the solvent-to-

solid material weight ratio is in the range of from 3 to 20.

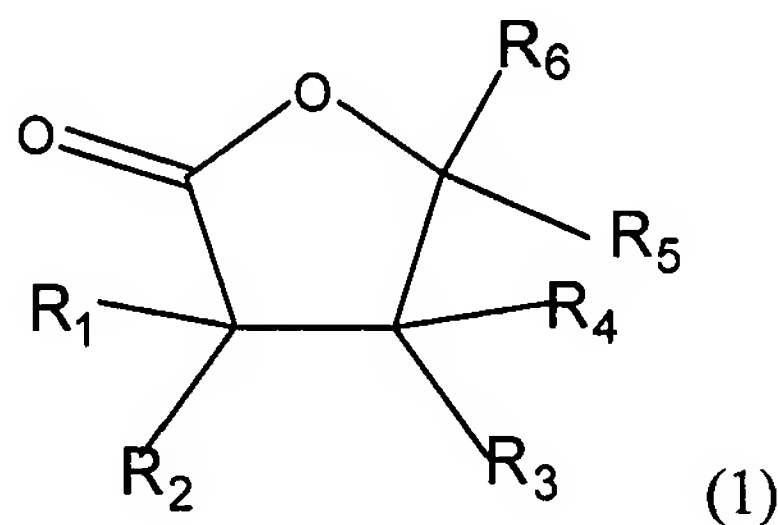
16. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The process according to claim 1, wherein the temperature is in the range of from 120 to 250°C.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The process according to claim 1, wherein the pressure is in the range of from 0.1 to 15 bar (absolute).

18-20. (Canceled)

Please add the following new claims:

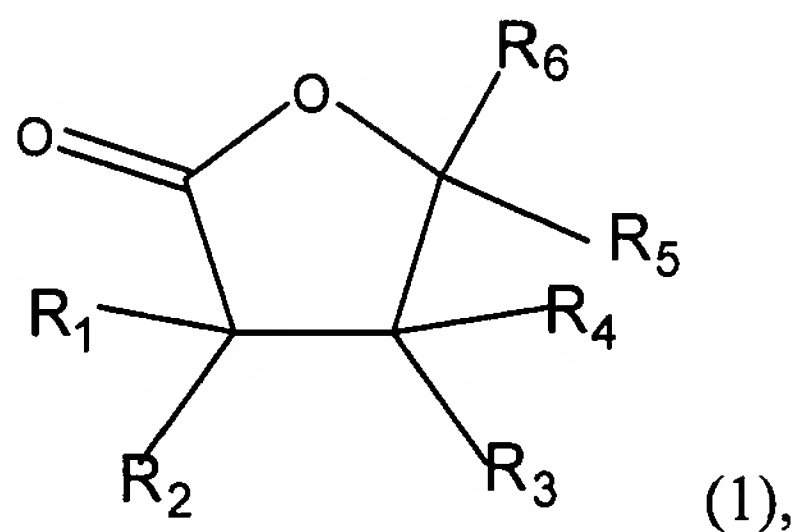
21. (New) A process for the liquefaction of lignocellulosic or cellulosic material, wherein solid lignocellulosic or cellulosic material is heated at a temperature in the range of from 100 to 300°C in the presence of an acid catalyst and a solvent, wherein the solvent-to-solid material weight ratio is at most 50, the acid catalyst is present in a concentration of at most 50% by weight of acid based on the weight of solvent and acid, and the solvent comprises a compound having a γ -lactone group of general molecular formula:



wherein R_1 to R_6 each represent, independently, a hydrogen atom or an organic group connected with a carbon atom to the lactone group, and further wherein the compound having a γ -lactone group is obtainable from levulinic acid by hydrogenation, dehydration, aldolcondensation, dimerization or oligomerization, esterification with an alcohol, or a combination of two or more of these reactions.

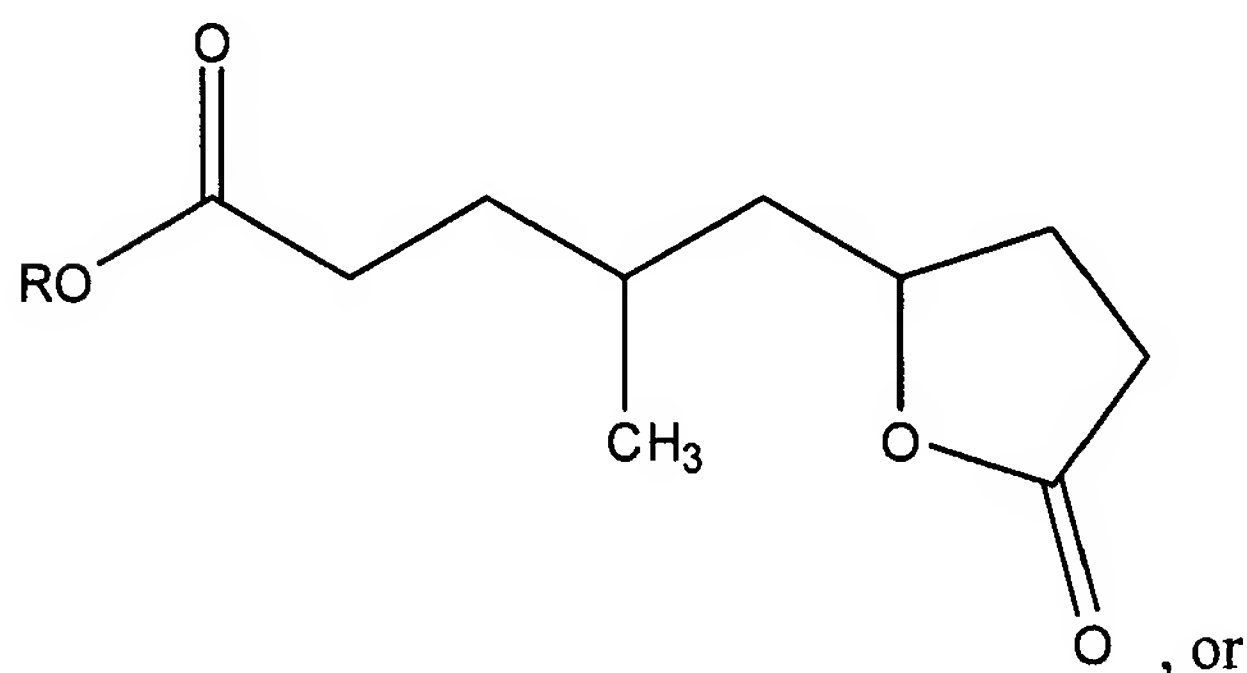
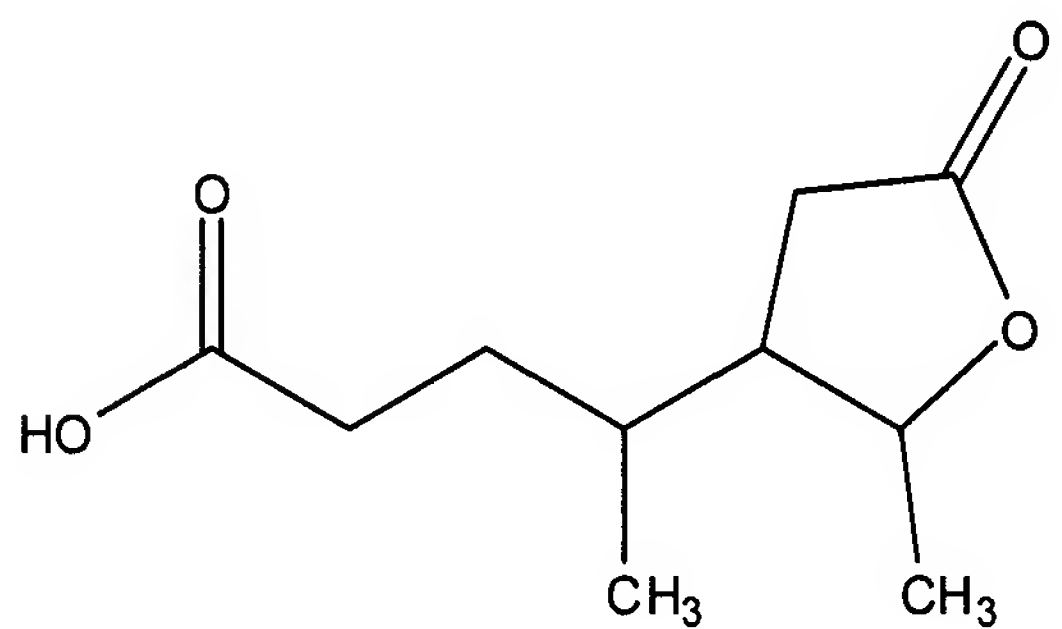
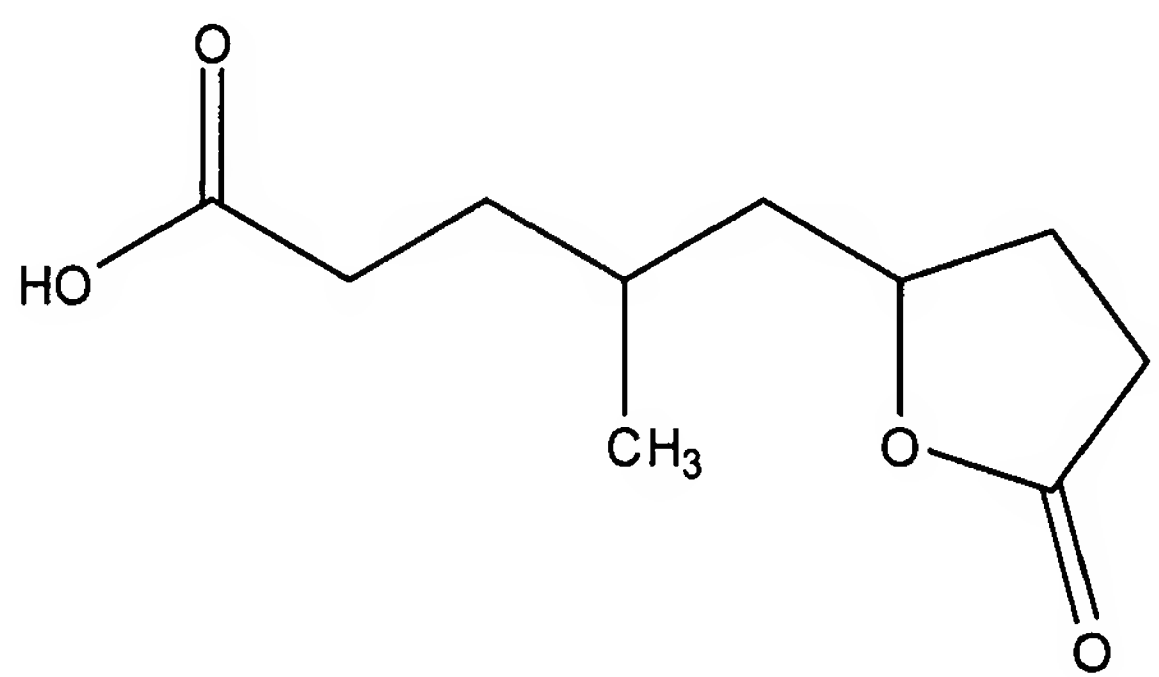
22. (New) The process of claim 21, wherein the solvent-to-solid material weight ratio is in the range of from 3 to 20.

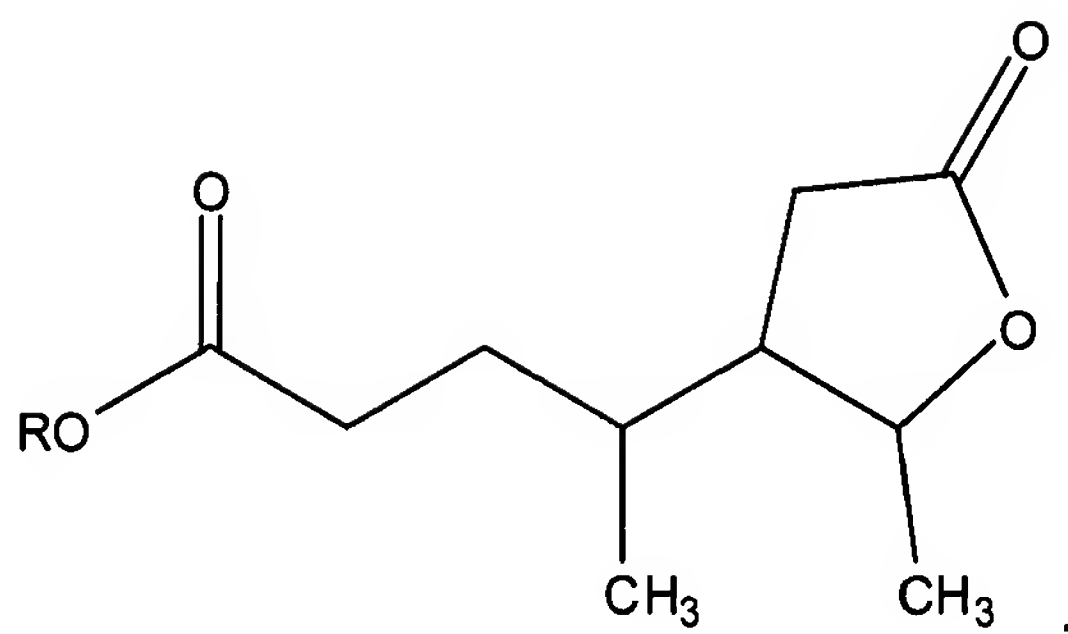
23. (New) A process for the liquefaction of lignocellulosic or cellulosic material, wherein solid lignocellulosic or cellulosic material is heated at a temperature in the range of from 100 to 300°C in the presence of an acid catalyst and a solvent, the acid catalyst is present in a concentration of at most 50% by weight of acid based on the weight of solvent and acid, and the solvent comprises a compound having a γ -lactone group of the general molecular formula:



wherein R_1 to R_6 each represent, independently, a hydrogen atom or an organic group connected with a carbon atom to the lactone group, and further wherein the solvent-to-solid material weight ratio is in the range of from 3 to 20.

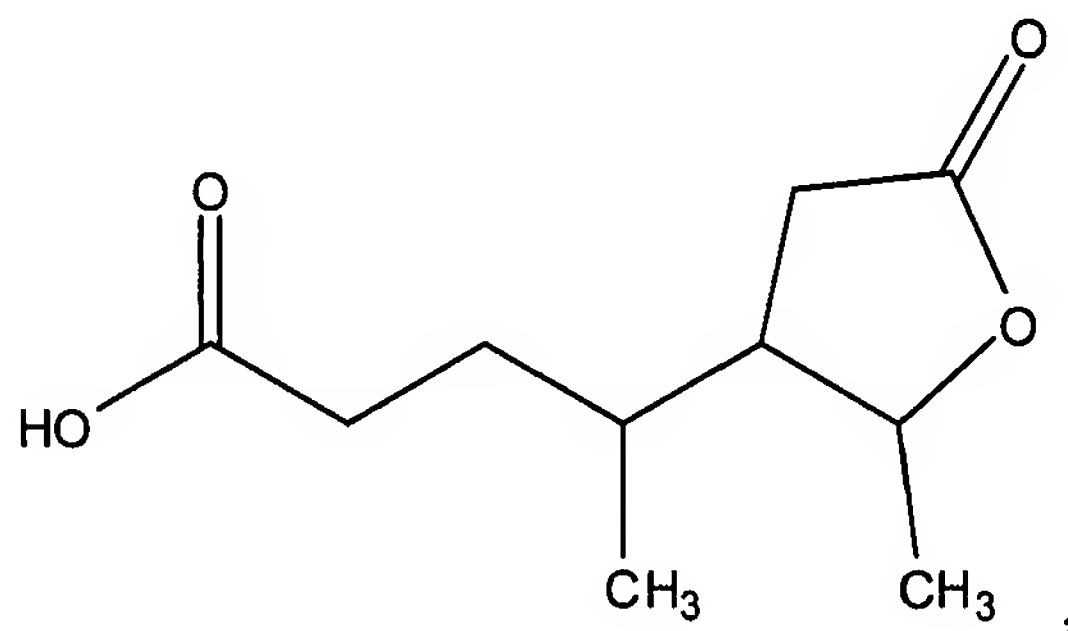
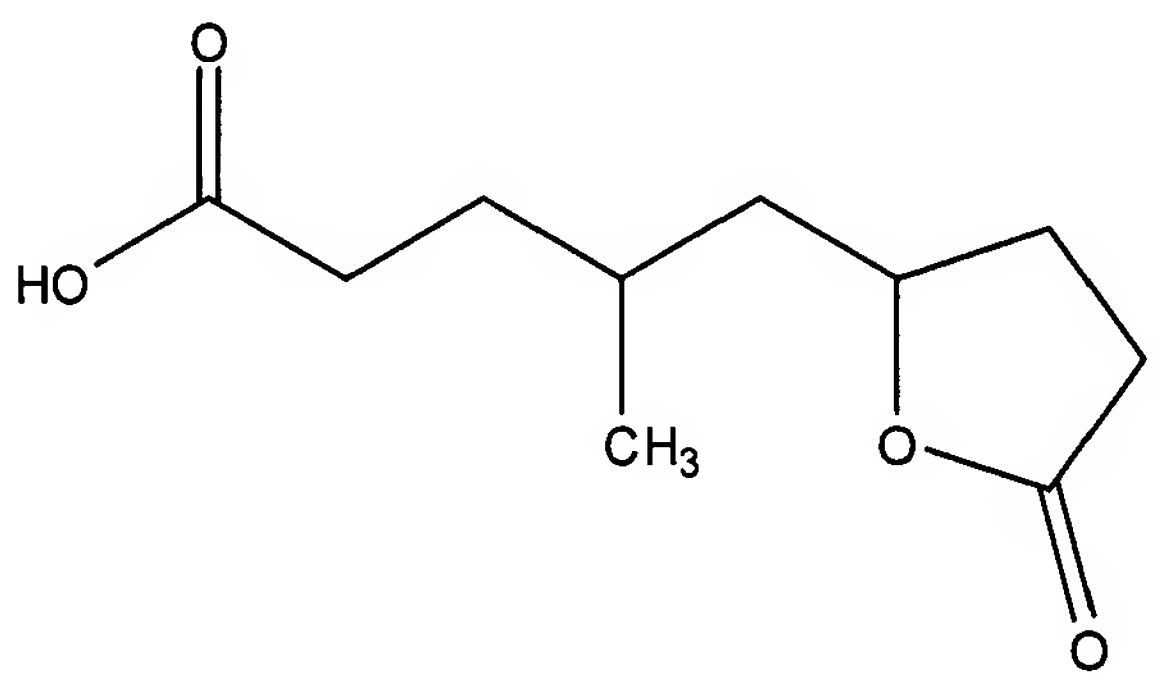
24. (New) A process for the liquefaction of lignocellulosic or cellulosic material, wherein solid lignocellulosic or cellulosic material is heated at a temperature in the range of from 100 to 300°C in the presence of an acid catalyst and a solvent, wherein the solvent-to-solid material weight ratio is at most 50, the acid catalyst is present in a concentration of at most 50% by weight of acid based on the weight of solvent and acid, and the solvent comprises, wherein the solvent comprises a compound having the molecular formula:

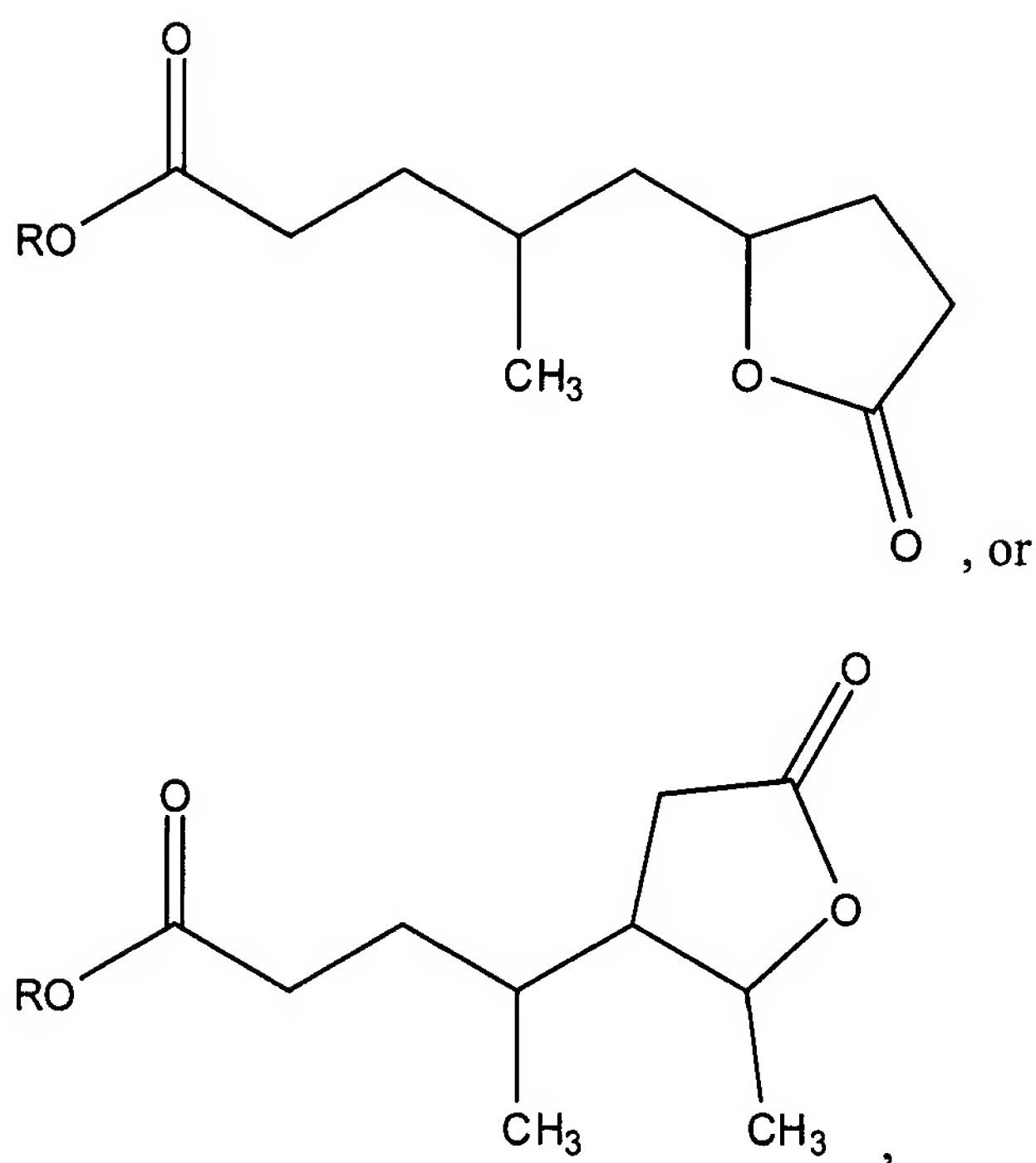




wherein **R** is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl.

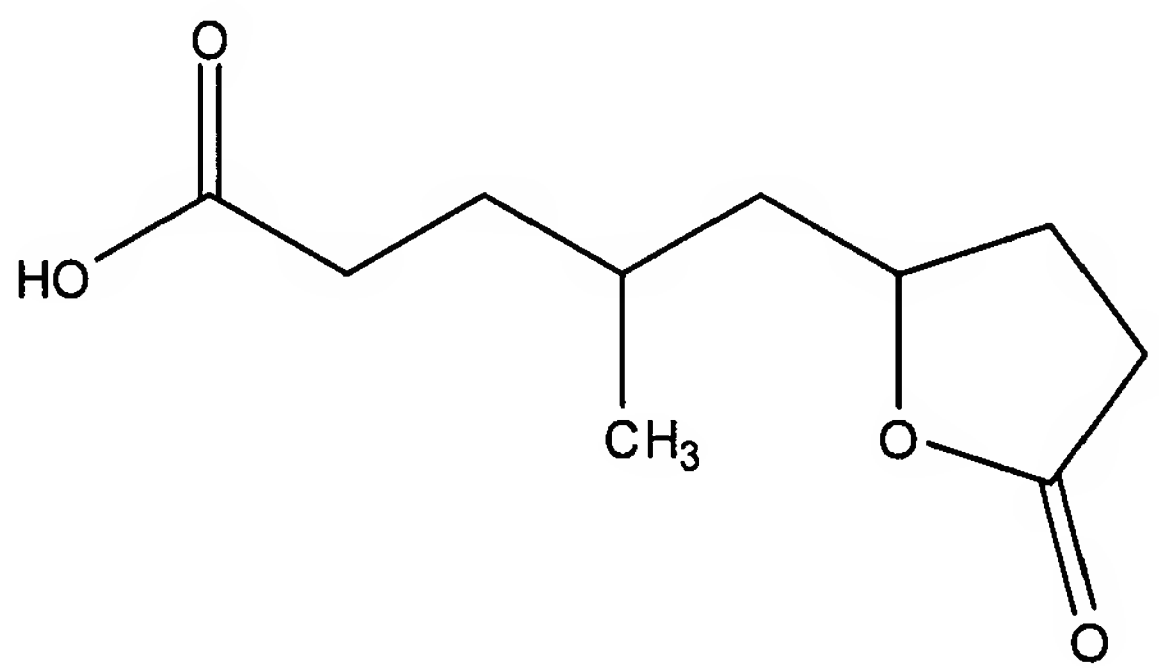
25. (New) A process for the liquefaction of lignocellulosic or cellulosic material, wherein solid lignocellulosic or cellulosic material is heated at a temperature in the range of from 120 to 250°C in the presence of an acid catalyst and a solvent, wherein the solvent-to-solid material weight ratio is in the range of from 3 to 20, the acid catalyst is present in a concentration of at most 50% by weight of acid based on the weight of solvent and acid, and the solvent comprises a compound having the molecular formula:

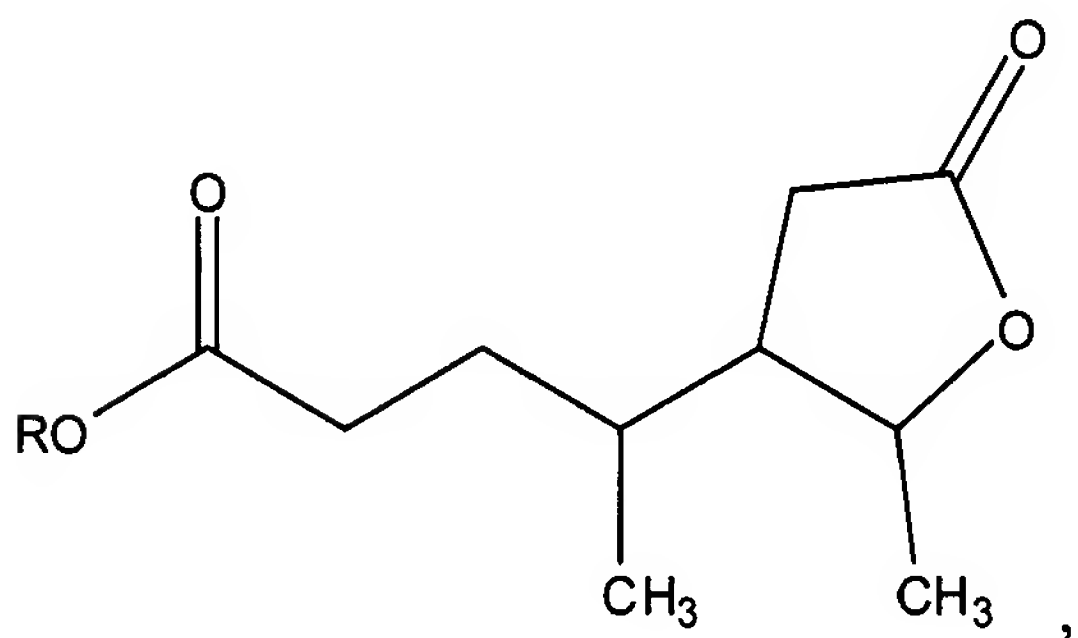
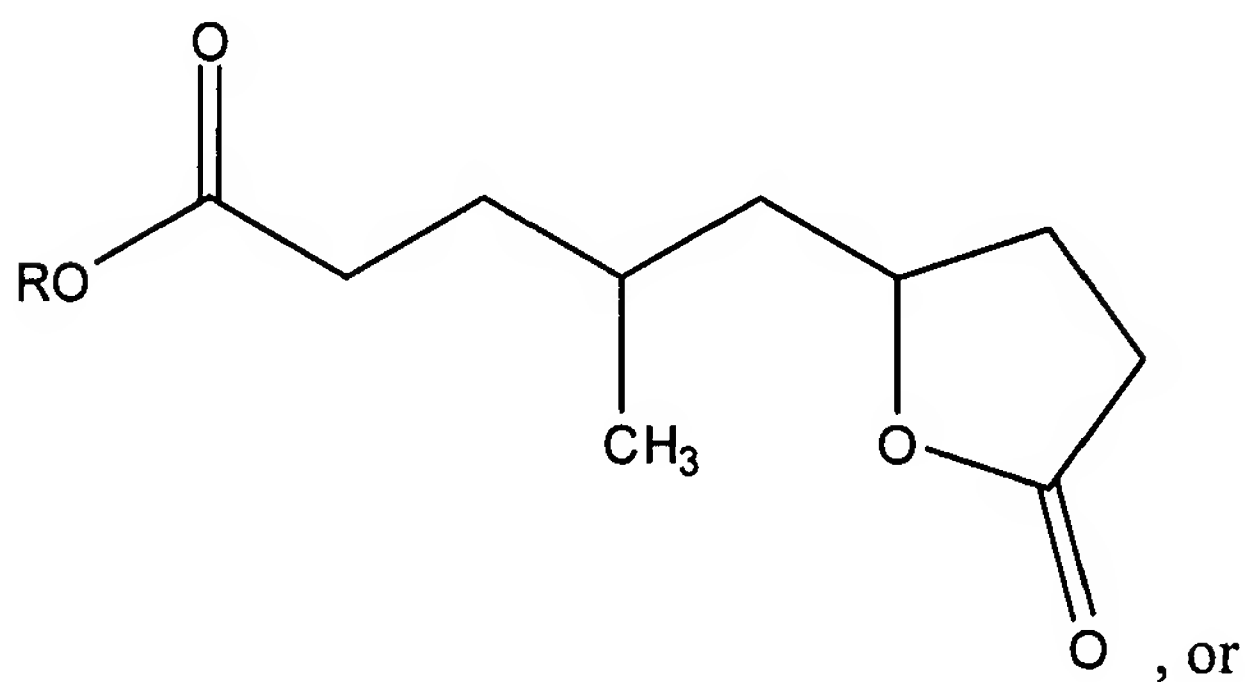
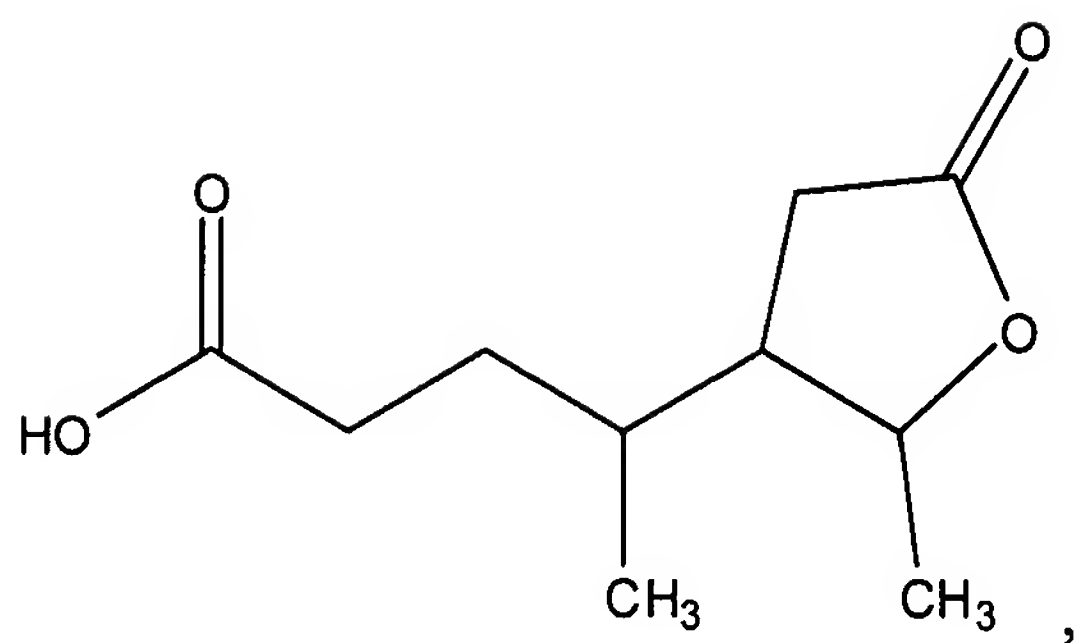




wherein **R** is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl.

26. (New) A process for the liquefaction of lignocellulosic or cellulosic material, wherein solid lignocellulosic or cellulosic material is heated at a temperature in the range of from 100 to 300°C in the presence of an acid catalyst and a solvent, wherein the solvent-to-solid material weight ratio is at most 50, the acid catalyst is present in a concentration of at most 50% by weight of acid based on the weight of solvent and acid, and the solvent comprises a compound having the molecular formula:





wherein **R** is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, and further wherein the acid catalyst is oxalic acid, 2-oxopropanoic acid, maleic acid, (1E)-prop-1-ene-1,2,3-tricarboxylic acid, 2,3-dihydroxysuccinic acid, or furan-2,5-dicarboxylic acid, or a combination of two or more thereof.